RECEIVED **CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

MAR 27 2006

Customer No. 01933

Attorney Docket No. 01147/LH

Response to Final Office Action

Application No. 09/813,213

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Minoru ASAKAWA et al

Serial No. : 09/813,213

Filed : March 20, 2001

IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS For

Art Unit 2624

Examiner King Y Poon :

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

This is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed January 13, 2006, and Advisory Action mailed March 13, 2006, the term for response to which expires on April 13, 2006.

Amendments to the Claims are set forth in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, 18 and 20 are amended; claims 3 and 4 are canceled; and claims 2, 5, 8-11, 14-17, 19 and 21 are maintained.

Remarks begin on page 13 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION TO NO. 1-571-273-8300

TOTAL PAGES: 14

Amendment (14)

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents on the date noted below.

N. Sanales Nalini P. Sahadeo

Dated: March 27, 2006

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by form PTO-203B attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee to account No. 06:137B.